



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Release Date: September 26, 2014

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(Note to media: [Click here](#) for an example of the trayliner art.)

GED® ATTAINMENT IS FOCUS OF McDONALD'S PROMOTION IN 67 COUNTIES

(FRANKFORT, Ky.)--McDonald's restaurants in 67 counties are joining forces to encourage GED® attainment with in-store promotions funded by the restaurant owners.

Beginning this week, customers at restaurants represented by McDonald's of Central and Southeastern Kentucky, Paducah Co-op, Tri-State Co-op, Tri-Cities Co-op, Evansville Co-op and Louisville Co-op will see trayliners featuring a message encouraging the attainment of a GED® test credential. The campaign is an extension of ongoing efforts to raise the educational attainment of adults by Kentucky Adult Education, a unit of the Council on Postsecondary Education.

This is the ninth consecutive year McDonald's restaurant owner/operators have partnered with Kentucky Adult Education to promote GED® attainment. The campaign was initiated by Joe Graviss, a central Kentucky owner/operator and a member of the Council on Postsecondary Education. The project began in three of his restaurants in Franklin and Woodford counties and has grown exponentially through his leadership.

Reecie D. Stagnolia, vice president for Kentucky Adult Education, Council on Postsecondary Education, said private sector partners are essential to emphasizing the value of education.

"As adult educators work to help prepare more Kentuckians for college and careers, public awareness is very important. We are very grateful for our partnership with McDonald's," he said. "It provides us with an opportunity to reach thousands of Kentuckians with a vital message about the importance of education."

This ongoing partnership reflects McDonald's commitment to support the local communities they serve, according to Graviss of the McDonald's of Central and Southeastern Kentucky cooperative.

"We witness firsthand the importance of education in our businesses and know that KYAE's efforts will have a far-reaching impact on communities throughout our Commonwealth," he said.

Adult education centers provide free academic instruction, credentialing and college- and career-readiness preparation, e.g., GED® test credential, National Career Readiness Credential (NCRC) and English as a second language classes. To find the center in your county, call Kentucky Adult Education at 1-800-928-7323 or visit <http://kyae.ky.gov>.

McDonald's USA, LLC, is the leading foodservice provider in the United States serving a variety of wholesome foods made from quality ingredients to millions of customers every day. For more information on McDonald's visit <http://www.mcdonalds.com>.

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Central and Southeastern Kentucky

Adair, Anderson, Bath, Bourbon, Boyle, Breathitt, Casey, Clark, Clay, Clinton, Estill, Fayette, Franklin, Garrard, Harrison, Jessamine, Knox, Laurel, Lincoln, Madison, McCreary, Mercer, Metcalfe, Montgomery, Pendleton, Powell, Pulaski, Rockcastle, Rowan, Russell, Scott, Wayne, Whitley and Woodford

Paducah Co-op

Caldwell, Calloway, Crittenden, Graves, Lyon, Marshall and McCracken

Tri-State Co-op

Elliott, Floyd, Johnson, Lawrence, Magoffin, Martin, Morgan and Pike

Tri-Cities Co-op

Bell, Harlan, Letcher and Perry

Evansville Co-op

Daviess, Henderson, Hopkins, Muhlenberg, Ohio, Union and Webster

Louisville Co-op

Barren, Bullitt, Green, Hardin, Hart, LaRue and Taylor

We believe in the transformative power of postsecondary education. Stronger by Degrees, the new strategic agenda for Kentucky's colleges and universities and adult basic education, is powering a stronger Kentucky economy and improving the lives of Kentuckians. To learn more about Stronger by Degrees, visit <http://cpe.ky.gov/strongerbydegrees>. Follow us on Twitter <http://twitter.com/#!/CPENews>.